



Department of Commerce

Innovation is in our nature.

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PLANNER'S UPDATE

A monthly newsletter to share helpful information related to planning in Washington State

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Welcome to the Planner's Update, an electronic newsletter from The Department of Commerce, Growth Management Services. We send this newsletter monthly to share helpful information related to planning in Washington State.

Please feel free to send us any comments or ideas for how to make this newsletter more useful. You can also use the link below to provide additional names of planners who might like to subscribe. Please also consider sharing this newsletter with planning commissioners.

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SCHEDULES

[Regional Planners Forums](#)
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QUICK LINKS

www.commerce.wa.gov/growth
www.washington-apa.org
www.smartgrowth.org
www.planningpaw.org
www.mrsc.org

1. PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNICATION UPDATE

Eight state agencies have reviewed and reaffirmed *the Principles Governing State Agency Correspondence Under the Growth Management Act*. The participating agencies are:

Commerce, Ecology, WSDOT, Corrections, Health, Puget Sound Partnership, DSHS, and WDFW.

These principles were developed jointly with the Washington State Association of Counties and the Association of Washington Cities in 2006. The principles define how state and local governments will work together on planning matters that affect state mandates, and especially how state agencies will participate in local government GMA implementation. Since they were developed, they have minimized conflicts arising from misunderstandings, and ensured that our agencies' written

correspondence occurs in the proper context. Although differing interpretations and legitimate disagreements do occur occasionally, these principles have a framework for resolving those disagreements efficiently, and for ensuring that disagreements are focused on the substance of the issue itself.

Through cooperative discussions, staff from the associations and state agencies reviewed the Principles in 2010 and found only a few small changes were needed. Although state and local government resources are severely limited at this time, the Principles reaffirm state and local governments' commitment to their vital partnership to develop good plans and make them a reality. Effective growth management plans facilitate decisions that foster economic development, protect the natural environment, manage the costs of providing needed public infrastructure, and ensure timely and fair permitting decisions. The Principles will help state agencies and local governments continue to maintain a cooperative relationship to implement the goals of growth management and to realize a bright future for our state.

To see the principles, visit <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/871/default.aspx>

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2. U.S. CENSUS BUREAU INCLUDES URBAN GROWTH AREAS

The U.S. Census Bureau released Washington's 2010 TIGER/Line files last week <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/tgrshp2010/tgrshp2010.html>. This TIGER release includes the UGA boundaries for the State of Washington. Staff from Commerce and the Office of Financial Management worked with Census Bureau staff over the past two years to include UGA boundaries in TIGER files. Census blocks have been matched to UGA boundaries, so census block information can be aggregated to match UGAs.

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3. GEOLOGICAL INDEXES

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geology and Earth Resources (DGER), is pleased to present two indexes of geologic quadrangle, quadrant, and whole-state maps of Washington.

Index to geologic mapping of 7.5-minute quadrangles of Washington:
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/ger_24k_mapping_status.pdf

Index to geologic mapping of 30x60-minute quadrangles, state quadrants, and the state of Washington in its entirety: http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/ger_geologic_maps_wa.pdf
Each index lists known geologic mapping from all sources (not just DGER), and allows you to find maps in three different ways: a graphical index on a map of Washington, a list of maps by sorted by quadrangle name, and a list of maps by author (citation).

Please note that these indexes do not cover all geologic mapping done in Washington – only mapping of quadrangles, quadrants, and the whole state of Washington. Other sources of geologic mapping can be discovered in a variety of ways:

Index to Geologic and Geophysical Mapping of Washington (last updated 2003):
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/GeologicHazardsMapping/Pages/mapindex.aspx>

Includes all known published, open-filed, and thesis mapping in Washington, at scales from 1:480 to 1:580,000. All of the maps listed in this index are held at the Washington Geology Library.

Bibliography of the Geology and Mineral Resources of Washington State:

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/GeologyPublicationsLibrary/Pages/washbib.aspx>

An online searchable database of the holdings of the Washington Geology Library, the most comprehensive collection of material on Washington geology in the world.

The DGER publications list: http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/ger_publications_list.pdf

Lists all publications of the Washington Division of Geology and Earth Resources (and predecessors).

All DGER publications are now available online – look for the blue link(s) at the end of each publication listing.

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4. PLANNING GUIDE FOR AREAS NEAR UNDERGROUND PIPELINES

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) released a report from the Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA) that has been in the works for over two years. The report provides local governments and developers recommended practices to consider that will help make development near pipelines safer, and also provides a framework for how to consider the risk when new homes, schools, and businesses are proposed to be built near high-pressure transmission pipelines.

The Pipeline Safety Trust has launched an entire new section of their website devoted to better planning near pipelines. It can be found at: <http://www.pstrust.org/planningnearpipes.htm>. The new website includes not only the PIPA report but also a good deal of additional information including recent news stories related to planning near pipelines, samples of ordinances that other communities have already adopted, and links to other similar efforts and reports.

This initial report from PIPA took over two years to develop and included representatives from city and county governments, pipeline companies, the public, developers, fire marshals, and state and federal regulators.

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5. SIDEWALKS AND TREES: HOW TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF BOTH

A seminar conducted by Gordon Mann, of Mann Made Resources, Auburn, California, will discuss strategies that reduce the conflicts between green and grey infrastructure elements. Proper planning, design, management and mitigation help retain valuable community trees while reducing costly infrastructure repairs and replacements.

The seminar will be held on Tuesday, January 25, at the Pierce County Environmental Services Building in University Place, Washington, and is intended for professionals who deal regularly with conflicts between tree roots and built infrastructure. Topic of discussion will be useful to planners, city managers, engineers, public works staff and contractors, as well as arborists, urban foresters, arboricultural consultants and landscape architects.

For more information and to register, visit

<http://wa12sidewalkandtreesjan25.evenbrite.com/?ref=ecal>.

The seminar will also be presented on Thursday, January 27, in Bellingham, Washington; please check the PNW-ISA website at <http://pnwisa.org/calendar/psn-isa-ceu-courses-and-workshops.html> for location and further details.

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